view of most England-returned men indicate much breadth of economic vision. The kind of knowledge necessary for the successful working of an industry was so many-sided, that it was beyond the competence of any one ordinary man to qualify himself in every branch. Industrial efficiency was the result of co-operation among the specialists employed in the various branches. The England-returned student was usually no more than a mere technical man with a couple of years of academic experience. His idea of starting an industrial concern was by demanding a large salary and undertaking the management of every branch. That was not the fault of the student who had no practical training in the subject he was deputed to specialise in, except perhaps in some one branch of it: and when he returned he was asked to manage a whole concern to which he could hardly afford to do justice. Hence such a concern naturally and eventually failed. He said that, before starting an industry, efficient men should be put in charge of each of its branches, if it was to be run on proper lines. As for capital, there should be enough not only to cover the cost of the machinery and the construction of buildings, but also for the purchase of stores, undisposed of manufactured articles and unforeseen contingencies. Equally important was the location of the factory near the cheapest market for the raw materials, from which finished products could be despatched for sale at favourable freight. Cheap power was another important factor to be reckoned with. Another prominent question often lost sight of when starting a new industry was whether a ready market could be obtained in the face of competition. At the present time when so many new concerns had failed, it was not possible to expect the public to start new industries and the only way to get over that difficulty seemed to be that Government, when they found it possible to work a concern at a profit, should start the same themselves and work it on commercial lines. When the industry was working at a profit, it would not be difficult for Government to sell the same in due course on favorable terms to private individuals as a going concern. As the experiments conducted in the manufacture of pottery in the School of Arts were admitted to be successful, he hoped that the Government would take immediate steps to start a pottery factory on a commercial scale.

President's reply.—The Director of Industries has reported to the Government in this matter. His opinion appears to be to the effect that the starting of a pottery factory on a commercial scale by the Government is not likely to be profitable and that therefore the industry must come into being as a result of private enterprise. The Chemical Assistant is at present carrying on some research in pottery. The Director has already been requested to ascertain whether it would be desirable and useful to ask Mr. Kuehnell who was in charge of such works in Cochin to examine the stoneware mixture and the burnt stoneware and suggest improvement in regard to glazing lids for jars, etc., and also in regard to kilns. The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Member.—Mr. Chacko advised me to start this industry myself. He said it would be profitable.

President.—I do not know that. That is a matter between you and Mr. Chacko.

VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS—(*Continued*).

117. Needs of the Pattanapuram taluk.

Mr. P. S. Narasimha Aiyar (Member, Pattanapuram taluk) represented that the taluk contained large areas of swampy lands fit for paddy cultivation and said that such areas were excluded from reserved forests as per recent orders of Government. The Member prayed that such lands might be cut up into small blocks and registered in the names of the inhabitants of the taluk who would organise themselves into Co-operative Societes for the purpose. He added that the people were generally poor and requested that they might be given lands for cultivation.

The Member urged the need for opening a model agricultural farm and a model forest plantation.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

He next prayed that the construction of the roads from Pattazhi to Talavur, from Kunnikode to Pattazhi and from Kunnikode to Anchal might be taken up as early as possible.

Lastly, the Member pointed out that, as there was at present only one dispensary for the whole taluk, it was not possible to serve the needs of the outlying *pakuthies*. To remedy this state of affairs, the Member suggested that a Medical Assistant might be attached to the Punalur Dispensary who should tour in the taluk with the necessary medicines so that medical aid might be brought within reach of the several poor inhabitants living in out-of-the way parts.

President's reply.—The last item of your representation will be considered.

About the opening of roads, the road from Pattazhi to Talavur will be taken up for execution this year. The others will be taken up later.

As regards the opening of a model agricultural farm at Punalur and of a model forest plantation, your suggestions are noted.

Regarding the registration of swampy areas in the names of the inhabitants of the Pattanapuram taluk, the general rule is that those areas should be auctioned by the Government. Your suggestion is that these areas should be registered in the names of Co-operative Societies. Your suggestion is noted.

VI. PUBLIC HEALTH, MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND MEDICAL RELIEF.

(1) Municipal Councils.—(*Concluded.*)

118. Needs of the Trivandrum Municipality.

Mr. C. S. Narayana Aiyar (Member, Municipal Council, Trivandrum) said that the policy pursued by the Government towards Municipalities was neither sound nor just and that the maxim that Municipalities should find their own resources was an exploded one. He pointed out that the bigger Municipalities in the other Indian States were given increased sums as years passed, but, in Travancore, the Government followed a contrary course and encouraged local bodies to embark on schemes of further and heavier taxation and even went so far as to criticise a Municipal body for not realising the maximum amount of revenue from the imposition of taxes. The object of the Government was to escape unpopularity and to transfer the odium of taxation to local bodies. He added that, if the Government were unwilling to help the Municipalities, the better thing would be to close them, instead of maintaining them in a half-starved and unhealthy condition. He made special reference to the fact that the attitude of the Government with regard to the Trivandrum Municipality was the least reasonable. He stated that Trivandrum, being the capital, naturally possessed several public offices and courts and people flocked to the town for all manner of business and Government received revenue in the shape of stamp fees, court fees, etc., but the Government did not concern themselves with the problem of housing, water supply and sanitation. He emphasised that the Government should make a substantial contribution to the Municipality to meet all such expenditure. It was necessary that the angle of vision should change, because, as matters stood, while a poor man's house was taxed, the Government claimed exemption from payment of tax in respect of the numerous buildings belonging to them. The license fees from all vehicles plying in the town and the stamp fees on petitions and copying sheets went to the general revenues, and the Member said that that was not an equitable allocation of funds.

He then spoke on the appointment of a non-official President for the Trivandrum Municipality. He pointed out that the Municipality was working under serious defects and that those defects were not due to the lack of interest on the part of the Councillors or the want of their capacity to manage the affairs of the Council. He stated that, while all the moffusil Councils were given non-official Presidents, he could not understand why the Government insisted on appointing, as President, a very small officer whose position in the premier Municipality was distinctly inferior to that of the several of the Members and added that the Council really smarted under such an arrangement.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly